tra coasts and how far the Exclusive Economic Zone along these States are being exploited and what proposals, if any are pending clearance or pending implementation for better exploitation of Exclusive Economic Zone along the coasts in these States?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI TARUN GOGOI): (a) The area of Indian Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) is 2.02 million Square Kilometres. The percentage of Indian EEF as compared to the total EEZ of different countries of the world is not available as a number of countries have not settled their maritime boundaries and some countries are yet to declare their Exclusive Economic Zone.

(b) The quantum and percentage of marine fish production in India in the context of world fish production during the last three years are:—

Year	Marine fish Production in India (In lakh tonnes).	percentage of World Production
1989-90	22.57	2.71
1990-91	23.00	2.71
1991-92	24.69	2.82

(c) So far as fish production is concerned, India ranks seventh in the world. The total export of fish and fish products by top ten countries of the world is about US $ 15778 million in 1989 compared to India's export of marine products of US $ 481.18 million in the same year.

(d) Although total area of the Exclusive Economic Zone along Gujarat and Maharashtra Coasts is not available, however, the otal coastline of these two States is 2360 Kilometres. Chartered foreign fishing vessels and deep sea fishing vessels under Joint Ventures/Test Fishing are operated by fishing companies for exploitation of deep sea resources along Gujarat and Maharashtra Coasts. There is no proposal of Joint Venture, Leasing and Test Fishing for exploitation of resources specifically along the costs of these States, pending clearance.

Fishing projects

2692. SHRI S. S. AHLUWALIA: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that growing importance has been attached to the fishing projects in the coastal and deep sea regions since the Seventh Five Year Plan, when it has been identified by Government as one of the thrust areas for its potential to export marine products;

(b) if so, what were the broad outlines of incentives envisaged for the fishing firms to augment its poduction;
to augment i's production;

(c) what has been the picture of incentives actually availed of by the fishing firms in terms of financial assistances obtained for expansion of production capacities, vis-a-vis the achievement in this sector at the conclusion of the Seventh Plan;

(d) whether it is a fact that, in the year 1987, fishing firms represented to Government pleading for help to enable them overcome the operational problems arising out of acute financial constraints; and

(e) if so, the details of the measures taken, if any, to help them, and the situation presently prevailing?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI TARUN GOGOI): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The broad outlines of incentives are in the Statement enclosed (See below)

(c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(d) Yes, firms involved in deep sea fishing represented to the Government for assistance to overcome their problems.

(e) By taking into consideration the difficulties faced by the deep sea fishing industry, the Government announced a comprehensive rehabilitation scheme in April, 1991 in consultation with the industry. The rehabilitation package envisaged concessions which included waiver of penal interest, recapitalisation of overdue amounts payable over the balance economic life of the vessel; additional financial assistance for meeting the increased cost of acquisition of vessels, financial assistance for repair and remodification of vessels etc. However, out of the 42 companies whose proposals for rehabilitation were approved by the Government only three companies complied with all the terms and conditions of rehabilitation and executed the revised loan agreements.

I. COASTAL MARINE FISHERIES

(i) Motorisation of Traditional Craft

Government is implementing a Centrally Sponsored Scheme on Motorisation of Traditional Craft from VII Plan onwards to augment marine fish production from traditional sector and to increase the income of fishermen, thereby raising their standard of living. The scheme envisages installation of OBM/IBM upto 10 HP in traditional craft for easy mobility of fishermen at sea and reduced fishing effort for maximum and quick return after fishing to prevent spoilage of fish thereby enabling them to enhance fish production and improve the standard of living of fishermen. At present, 50 per cent subsidy with a maximum of Rs. 10000 per engine is provided towards the cost of engine which is shared by the Centre and State on 50 : 50 basis. About 10000 traditional crafts have been sanctioned to be motorised so far under this programme with a Central subsidy of Rs. 3.60 crores upto 91-92 and about 1500 crafts during 92-93 with a central subsidy of Rs. 75 lakhs.

(ii) Introduction of Plywood Craft

Another component is the introduction of plywood crafts from 1991-92 onwards as a substitute to wooden craft which is costly and in short supply. The scheme envisages popularisation of such crafts developed by BOBP having length below 10 m. and fitted with diesel IBM of 10 HP. Under this component, 25 per cent of the cost of such craft is provided as subsidy, limited to Rs. 30000 per craft which is shared by the Centre and State equally. During 1991-92, sanction has been issued for introduction of 22 plywood crafts in Kerala.

(iii) Reimbursement of Central Excise Duty on HSP oil supplied to mechanized fishing vessels below 20 m. length.

The scheme was introduced during 1990-91, onwards as a measure to give relief to the fishermen operating mechanised fishing vessels below 20 m length so as to reduce operational cost for increase in fish production and export of marine products. Under this scheme, the Central Excise Duty on HSD oil is reimbursed in full to the small mechanised fishing boat operators, the expenditure of which is borne on 80 : 20 basis between the Centre and the States from 1991-92 onwards. The 100 per cent expenditure on reimbursement of Central Excise Duty was met by the Centre during 1990-91.

An amount of Rs. 800 lakhs has been released under this scheme so far upto 1991-92 towards reimbursement of

Central share. It is estimated that about 16200 vessels have derived benefit under the scheme during 1991-92.

II. DEEP SEA FISHING SECTOR

Recognising the role of the deep sea fishing industry as a potential export oriented industry the Government of India had extended several concessions to this industry to augment its production. These included subsidy of upto 33 per cent of the cost of indigenously constructed vessels, soft loans at low interest rates for the acquisition of fishing vessels, diesel subsidy of Rs. 1.6 per litre of fuel consumed or 10 per cent of the FOB value of exports, whichever is less, duty free imports for inputs/ equipments, other benefits as applicable to export oriented units, etc.

Mexican deep sea fishing vessels

2693. SHRI MENTAY PADMANABHAM: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) number of Mexican deep-sea fishing vessels financed by SDFC which are lying idle in Visakhapatnam Port;

(b) whether Government have made any effort to extend rehabilitation and revival schemes for these fishing vessels;

(c) whether Government have convened a joint meeting of SCICI and the entrepreseneurs from Andhra Pradesh to discuss ways of reviving and operating these Mexican vessels

(d) the details thereof; and

(e) whether any financial assistance is likely to be given to workers on these vessels?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI TARUN GOGOI): This information is not available since the number of vessels lying idle varies from day-to-day. Also, some vessels would be in port on a particular day in between voyages for repairs or for dry-docking.

(b) The rehabilitation schemes announced by the Government of India are aimed at reviving all the sick but potentially viable deep sea fishing companies assisted by the erstwhile SDFC.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) No, Sir. The Government of India has no such scheme.

Programme for economic development of North Eastern by NERAMAC

2694. SHRI SUDHIR RANJAN MAJUMDAR: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) what programme for economic development of the North Eastern has been taken up by North Eastern Agricultural Marketing Cooperation Limited, a Government of India undertaking to help the producers in Agriculture and Horticulture Sector;

(b) what benefits accrued to the people concerned out of this programme;

(c) the number of fruit processing units which are operating in that region;

(d) if production has started what is the value of turnover;

(e) to what extent the marketing facilities have reached; and

(f) whether the products of the NERAMAC are exported; if so, the Foreign exchange earned?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI TARUN GOGOI): (a) The North Eastern Regional Agricultural Marketing Corporation Ltd. (NERAMAC) has set up a Fruit Processing Plant in North Tripura